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THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT
COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION
CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-third year

Letter dated 15 October 1998 from the Permanent Representatives of the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the Declaration on All-Round Cooperation among the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, of 12 October 1998 (see annex).

We should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 45, 71, 79, 93, 101 and 102, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) S. LAVROV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations

(Signed) R. ALIMOV
Ambassador
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(Signed) A. VOHIDOV
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Annex

Declaration on All-Round Cooperation among the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan

The Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

On the basis of their historical relations of strategic partnership and equal and mutually advantageous cooperation,

Considering the need to develop further and improve the effectiveness of their mutual trade and economic, scientific and technological, humanitarian and other ties, and ensure their long-term basis and stability,

Considering the safeguarding of peace, security and stability at the global and regional levels to be a necessary condition for the sustainable development of the Parties, and desiring to maintain an optimum level of security and defence capacity for their countries,

Reaffirming their commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States, as well as the provisions of treaties and agreements governing relations among them,

Guided by the universally recognized norms and principles of international law,

Declare the following:

Article 1

The Parties shall broaden and deepen mutually advantageous cooperation in the fields of trade and economy, investment, credit and finance and science and technology, including the establishment of financial and industrial groups, joint enterprises and production associations in priority areas, and the establishment and development of industrial and scientific and technological cooperation, direct ties among economic agents under all forms of ownership, and also among regions of the Parties.

Article 2

The Parties shall actively promote the broadening of mutual ties in the fields of culture, education, science, the press and information, and health care, and encourage contacts among citizens and public associations of the Parties.

Article 3

The Parties shall promote a dialogue and cooperation in the field of security and defence on the basis of the principles of equality, partnership and mutual advantage, and improve cooperation in the military-technical field on the basis of separate agreements.

Article 4

The Parties shall develop cooperation, interacting with the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and with interested States in the interests of complete political stabilization in the Republic of Tajikistan on the basis of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord of 27 June 1997, and the economic rehabilitation and development of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Article 5

The Parties shall increase interaction in the interest of safeguarding international peace, stability and security at the regional and global levels, providing each other with all-round support, particularly in the case of a threat to their sovereignty or territorial integrity.

The Parties shall promote the continuation of the disarmament process, the strengthening of the nuclear-weapon non-proliferation regime and the comprehensive nuclear-test-ban regime.

The Parties shall broaden cooperation with a view to improving the effectiveness and strengthening the role of the United Nations as the universal body for maintaining world peace and security.

Article 6

The Parties shall coordinate their efforts to counteract the spread of aggressive religious or other extremism, attempts from outside or within to alter the constitutional or social structure by forcible means or violate the territorial integrity of the Parties.

Article 7

Each Party shall refrain from supporting, or participating in, any action directed against the other Parties, and shall prevent their territory from being used for the preparation or implementation of such actions.

If a situation arises which, in the opinion of one of the Parties, poses a threat to its security, territorial integrity or sovereignty or a threat to peace and security in the region, the Parties shall hold consultations with each

other without delay, both on a trilateral basis and within the framework of international organizations, with a view to coordinating their positions and taking the necessary measures to eliminate such a threat.

Article 8

The Parties shall broaden cooperation to safeguard and defend their borders, counteract any encroachment on their borders from outside, taking when necessary the appropriate joint measures of a political and economic nature and in relation to defences.

If an act of aggression is committed against one of the Parties, the other Parties shall provide the necessary assistance, including military assistance, and shall render support with the means available to them on the basis of the right to collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 9

The Parties shall ensure close cooperation among their law-enforcement and other competent agencies with a view to combating terrorism, transboundary organized crime, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and their precursors, nuclear materials, radioactive, explosive or toxic substances, weapons and ammunition, and contraband in objects of cultural or historical value and licensed materials.

Article 10

The Parties shall, when necessary, conclude appropriate international agreements, including agreements among interested departments of the Parties, hold joint consultations at various levels and establish joint working bodies in the interest of the fullest possible implementation of agreements concluded among them.

Article 11

The provisions of this Declaration are not directed against other States.

The Parties are prepared to engage in constructive interaction and cooperation with all interested States and international organizations with a view to implementing the provisions of this Declaration in the interests of peace, security and stability in the region and the whole world.

This Declaration was signed on 12 October 1998 in triplicate in the Russian, Tajik and Uzbek languages.

(Signed) B. N. YELTSIN	(Signed) E. Sh. RAKHMONOV	(Signed) I. A. KARIMOV
President of the Russian Federation	President of the Republic of Tajikistan	President of the Republic of Uzbekistan

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